GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:392
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2003
SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to find out bottlenecks in resolving the drinking water problem in summer months all over the country including Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the plans proposed by the Government to address the same;

(d) the status of coverage of habitations under the rural water supply at present, State-wise;

(e) the States that have achieved cent percent coverage; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure cent percent coverage for the remaining States?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA)

(a) to (f) - A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 392 due for answer on 19th August, 2003

(a) to (c) - Provision of drinking water is a State subject Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments for providing drinking water in rural areas by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)However, Government of India has been closely monitoring the steps taken by the States in resolving drinking water problems in the rural areas during the summer months. The Government of India have been administering the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for providing assistance for natural calamities including drought, flood etc.With effect from the year 2002-03, it has been decided that 5% of the allocated funds in a financial year under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) will be earmarked to meet contingencies arising out of natural calamities and emergent situations affecting drinking water supply. This provision can be utilized only in the areas which have been declared by the State Governments as calamity affected and notified as such and definite proposals are received. No proposal seeking funds from 5% earmarked funds under ARWSP for drought mitigation in the rural areas of Delhi has been received from Government of Delhi. Details of funds released to drought affected States out of ARWSP is as per Annex - I.

(d) to (f) - The status of coverage of habitations under rural water supply as on 16.7.2003, State-wise is at Annex-II.All States have been requested to draw up Action Plans to achieve coverage of all remaining Not Covered(NC) and Partially Covered (PC)rural habitations by 31st March 2004. In order to achieve full coverage NC and PC weightage in the inter State allocation criteria was stepped up by 5% from 2002-2003. The Government of India has been monitoring the progress regularly with State Governments for achieving this goal.